

## Parkland College

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Earth Science Courses

Natural Sciences Courses

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2015

# Earth Science 102 Introduction to Physical Geology Fall 2015 Online

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# Syllabus – ESC102-051W - Introduction to Physical Geology – Fall 2015

**Instructor:** Julie Angel  
**Office:** Parkland College, L212  
**Office Telephone:** 217-373-3743  
**E-mail:** Via Cobra's email system (See *Course Web Site* below) at [jangel@cobra.parkland.edu](mailto:jangel@cobra.parkland.edu) or at jangel@parkland.edu if Cobra is down.

**Student Office Hours (Online):** Mondays, 4-5pm  
(or by appointment)

**Student Office Hours (On Campus):** Mondays and Fridays, 10-11am & Wednesdays 1-2pm

## **Course Description and General Objectives:**

This course focuses on the geology of Illinois and the Earth. Topics include plate tectonics, geologic time, minerals and rocks, volcanoes, weathering, mass wasting, streams, glaciers, groundwater, earthquakes, the earth's interior, oceanic and continental crust, and rock structures.

The overall objective of this course is a deeper understanding of the materials and processes that shape planet Earth.

**Required Materials:** Access to a computer and the Internet  
Textbook: “**Essentials of Geology**”, Lutgens and Tarbuck. Custom Edition for Parkland College (Twelfth Edition). Pearson Prentice Hall, 2015.

**(The textbook may be purchased on campus or online from the Parkland bookstore. The link can be found by accessing my.parkland.edu, click on the "student services" tab, then choose "bookstore")**

## **Grading:**

20% Homework & Participation  
30% Lab  
30% Weekly Quizzes  
20% Final Exam

## **Grading Scale:**

A	90-100%
B	80-89%
C	70-79%
D	60-69%
F	0-59%

You may access your current grade at any time by going to our course site in Cobra and clicking on "Grades". I keep your grades current by recording them in the Cobra gradebook in a timely manner.

## **Course Meeting Times:**

As this course is online, there are no formal meeting times. Each week's lecture material and a lab will be provided through Cobra and you "attend" lectures and the lab at the hours most convenient for you. There are weekly deadlines provided in the syllabus and within the weekly files. **Students are responsible for keeping pace with the course.** Staying up-to-date includes watching closely for course announcements, changes in quiz

or exam dates, lab exercises and due dates, changes in the syllabus, and any other changes deemed necessary by the instructor.

For on-campus full-semester sections of this course there are about 3 hours of lecture per week and 2 hours of lab per week. Please keep this in mind and schedule a similar amount of time (5 hours per week) for "attending" your online lectures and labs. This time does not include reading the textbook or studying, which come outside of class and lab time. Without the structure of scheduled class and lab meeting times, you as an online student have the responsibility of scheduling enough time to successfully complete the course material each week.

### **Student Office Hours:**

Online student office hours are through a live chatroom feature called AdobeConnect®. Student office hours will be held on Monday afternoons between 4:00 PM and 5:00 PM Central Time. Online student office hours can also be conducted by appointment by sending me an email in our Cobra course space. Please give me as much notice as possible for scheduling an appointment.

Online office hours can be accessed through the "Student Office Hours" news item on our course homepage in Cobra, or by clicking on the chat room link within the "CHAT Office Hours" module near the top of our class content page in Cobra. Please sign in as a guest by entering a user name (make sure it's something I will recognize as you – like your name). I will then accept you into the room and we can chat. You may be prompted to download Adobe Flash Player. If so, you'll need to do that before you can enter the chat room.

If you are on campus, you are welcome to come by during my on-campus office hours during the times and at the locations listed on page 1 of the syllabus.

On a few occasions, I may have to move a scheduled office hour. In those instances, I will send an email message to the class via Cobra.

### **Cobra System Web Site:**

I use the Cobra system as a repository for all class materials including your syllabus and related handouts, PowerPoint® lectures, homework problems, labs, the student gradebook, and more.

You may access Cobra on any computer by doing the following:

- Open a web browser (Cobra works well with most web browsers)

- Enter <http://cobra.parkland.edu> **OR** enter [my.parkland.edu](http://my.parkland.edu) and click on "Cobra Learning Login" under the "Applications" tab.

- Enter your username and password (Your username is the first part of your Parkland email address (e.g., if a student's email address is jsmith23@parkland.edu, then his/her Cobra username is jsmith23). Your initial password is your birth date: mmddyy (Note: if you were a Parkland student before Summer 2010, your default password is the last five digits of your SSN.). Your password can be changed if you wish. Remember, never share your password with anyone to protect your personal information.

- Once you're logged in, your semester courses will show up on the left side of the screen under the Fall 2015 courses module. Click on "ESC102-051W Introductory Physical Geology" to access our course space. There are a number of tabs at the top of the screen. The tabs we will use most often are listed at the top of the following page:

<u>Content</u>	PowerPoint lectures, homework assignments, discussion posts etc., will be posted here
<u>E-Mail</u>	Use this to send e-mail from the Cobra System. <b>Please send e-mail to me via the Cobra email system at <a href="mailto:jangel@cobra.parkland.edu">jangel@cobra.parkland.edu</a></b>
<u>Grades</u>	Access your current grades here at any time

Please let me know if you need help accessing the Cobra system!

### **Methods of Instruction:**

Our course will include lectures, labs, discussion topics, homework assignments, etc. on a weekly basis. PowerPoint lectures are posted for many lectures as well as written information to support each topic. Lectures will include topics and information from our text as well as additional information not found in the text. Labs may include paper and pencil, virtual, or video exercises. These exercises may include work with maps, photos, worksheets, and interactive computer programs from several sites on the internet to enhance your understanding of geologic processes and materials.

### **Pace of Course and Time Commitment:**

College courses generally move at a much faster pace than you may have experienced in high school. It is **VERY IMPORTANT** to keep up with your readings, homework, lab assignments, etc. and to take time to review your notes as we move along. Online courses require a bit more self-discipline than on-campus courses, so you may want to set up a schedule that you follow each week just for our online course. A college course will also require more study time outside of class than you may be used to. The general rule states that for each hour in our class, you will need to spend a *minimum* of 2 hours of study outside of class each week. This means that this course may require *at least 8* hours of studying outside of class each week.

### **Attendance:**

Parkland College requires that I keep attendance records for this course. You are responsible for information provided in the course site and due dates for assignments even if you are absent for an amount of time. This information may include: changes in test dates, lab exercises and due dates, changes in the syllabus and course information, and additional material added by the instructor. Our mutual goal is **your success** in this course. *Inadequate attendance has always been a leading cause of failure in college courses.* The attendance policy in this course is in keeping with the policy stated in the Parkland College Catalog. It says "Regular and prompt attendance is expected at all classes," except in cases involving illness or emergency which should be brought to the attention of the instructor. "Regular attendance and consistent study habits are considered necessary for academic success in college. ***Faculty members have the prerogative of lowering grades for excessive absence.***" Although our course is online, you should spend as much time with the material as you would for an on-campus course.

Online class attendance is determined by student participation in online learning activities and/or contact with the instructor. **For our online geology course, you must complete all "Week 1" activities except the lab and quiz before the second Monday of the semester (August 31, 2015) to fulfill this attendance/participation requirement.**

### **Drops/Withdrawals**

Please read the section "Dropping or Withdrawing from a Class Section" in the Syllabus Addendum found in our Cobra course space. If you find it necessary to withdraw from this course, withdrawal on or before May 1, 2015 by 5pm will result in a grade of "W" (withdraw, no penalty). Non-attendance after the second Monday of the semester will result in an F if you don't withdraw yourself. **Always consult with your instructor, counselor, or financial aid advisor before dropping any course.**

### **Daily Responsibilities:**

You can have a great effect on what happens in your college career and in your life by taking care of what needs to be done each day, not falling behind in your work, and following a few simple steps for success:

1. Login to your course site often to check for assignment posts, deadlines, and e-mails. There is as much coursework in an online course as there is in an on-campus course, so budget your time carefully and leave plenty of time to complete assignments.
2. Take good notes, keep up with your assignments (reading, homework, projects, lab, etc.), and don't hesitate to ask questions!
3. Please be considerate and respectful of your fellow students and me. Our time together will be spent mostly through discussion posts and e-mail. We encourage healthy debate, but please refrain from belittling or attacking the views of others.

### **Weekly Quizzes:**

There will be a weekly quiz given during each module in our 16 week course. Each quiz will be posted at 12:00 AM Central Time on Sunday morning and you will have until Tuesday evening at 11:59 PM Central Time to complete the quiz (please see the "Quiz and Exam Due Dates" document for two exceptions). The time allowed for each weekly quiz varies with the complexity of the topic. The amount of time allowed for each quiz is posted on the introduction page of the quizzes, so you'll know how much time to set aside before you start each quiz. Please notify me if you have accommodations through the Office of Disability Services for extended quiz time. Your three lowest quiz scores will be dropped. Because of this accommodation, no make-up quizzes will be given. Questions may be a combination of multiple-choice, matching, or short answer.

### **Final Exam:**

The final exam is comprehensive and you will be given 2 hours to complete the exam. **(Final for ESC102-051W: Opens at 12:00AM Central Standard Time on Sunday, December 13, 2015 and closes at 11:59 PM Central Standard Time on Wednesday, December 16, 2015.**

### **Lab:**

Geology is a laboratory science so we will be performing lab work with traditional pencil and paper exercises or through interactive computer lessons.

Labs in the previous week's folder are due the following Monday evening by 11:59 PM Central Time (see the "Lab Schedule" document for two exceptions). Please see the document, "Weekly Assignment and Lab Guidelines" for an explanation of the "Late Lab Policy".

*A passing grade in lab must be attained to pass the entire course. \*\*Three missing lab assignments results in an automatic failure of the lab portion of the course, therefore, please keep track of the number of labs that you miss.*

### **Homework Activities:**

The purpose of homework is to help you understand and practice key concepts from the course. Homework assignments and respective due dates will be announced in our Cobra course site.

### **Academic Honesty:**

Unethical conduct during examinations or in preparation of assignments designated by the instructor will not be tolerated and may result in disciplinary action. Unethical conduct includes, but is not limited to: (1) the submission of another person's work as one's own (known as plagiarism), and (2) the use of unauthorized technology or inappropriate use of technology during examinations or quizzes. Refer to the *Parkland College Student Policies and Procedures Manual* (<http://www2.parkland.edu/studentpolicy/honesty.html>) for more information.

### **Core Values:**

I believe strongly in the Core Values espoused by Parkland College: Honesty and Integrity, Fairness and Just Treatment, Responsibility, Multiculturalism, Education, and Public Trust. Essentially, these values set guidelines for how I, as an instructor, should treat you and how you should treat each other (and me). Failure to be respectful of one another or to maintain ethical behavior will not be tolerated.

### **Disability (ADA) Statement:**

If you believe you have a disability for which you may need an academic accommodation (e.g. an alternate testing environment, use of assistive technology or other classroom assistance) please contact the following person and then inform me as soon as possible:

Cathy Robinson

Director, Office of Disability Services (ODS)

U260 217-353-2338 disabilityservices@parkland.edu

ODS students are required to make contact with their instructors during the first week or two of classes, by introducing themselves and showing their ODS ID Card, which shows all approved adjustments and accommodations for which the student is eligible through ODS. I look forward to talking with you to discuss your accommodations and needs.

### **Student Email Account:**

You should access your Parkland email account at <http://stu.parkland.edu> a minimum of several times each week (preferably daily) to obtain information about courses or college announcements.

Contact the **Tech Services Help** desk for assistance with technical questions and issues regarding Parkland's student e-mail, Cobra Learning System, Wi-Fi access, or my.parkland. Please see the "Fall 2015 Syllabus Addendum" for assistance locations and times.

Please check your email daily within our ESC102-051W course in the Cobra system for potential course updates.

**No Classes:**     **Labor Day** – Monday, September 7, 2015 (college closed)

**Thanksgiving recess** – Thursday, November 26 – Sunday, November 29, 2015

### **Other Important**

#### **Dates:**

Last day to withdraw with "W" grade from full-semester courses – Friday, December 4, 2015 by 5pm

Last day of fall semester classes – Friday, December 11, 2015

Final Examinations – December 14-18, 2015

**\*\*Final for ESC102-051W: December 13, 14, 15 & 16, 2015**

***Note: The final exam schedule in the printed Fall 2015 Class Schedule is incorrect. There is a corrected version with the other course documents in Cobra within the "Course Information" module under "Content".***

\*Please Note: Not all possible situations can be covered by one policy. If you feel you have exceptional circumstances that merit waiver of any of these policies, please inform me as soon as possible. **\*\*This syllabus may be changed, when needed, according to the instructor's discretion.**

\*\*\*Please refer to the "Fall 2015 Syllabus Addendum" for additional information regarding Parkland policies and services. The addendum can be found within the course information module under "Content" or on the homepage of our course space in Cobra.